## Breve-Indicator of Short Vowels and Final Glottal Stops

Breve (˘) marks both short vowels and final glottal stops (băt /bat/ 'know', bă /ba?/ 'spoon'). Since there is no vowel length contrast before final glottal (though the vowel tends to be short) there is no ambiguity in this usage. However if one marks the glottal stop of /y?/ by writing a breve over the vowel instead of over the -i /y/ there is ambiguity if the breve may also be written over the vowel to mark a short vowel before /y/. Thus /hway/ and /hway?/ would be written the same: huăi. This has probably been the most common way of writing these combinations among the Bahnar. In this dictionary however we have written /ay/ as -ay (following Vietnamese) and /ay?/ as -aĭ (for example: huay-huaĭ 'okay').

Other vowels occurring short before /y/ are o /ɔ/, ơ /ə/, e /ɛ/ and u. /ɔy/ is written oy; /əy/ is written ây following Vietnamese; but /ɛy/ is written ei (because there is no long e before -y) and /uy/ is written ŭi.

As for short vowels before /w/, /ɛw/ is written ĕo, /iw/ is written ĭu, /ɔw/ is written ŏu, /aw/ is written au, and /əw/ is written âu. (See below for ŏu/âu contrast.)

## Syllable-Initial Glottal Stop

In $C_i$ and $C_p$ position glottal is unmarked (e.g. et /ʔɛ:t/ 'to drink'). (There are, however, a few parti-

cles which have no initial consonant. These are specifically noted in the dictionary.)

Glottal stop as preglottalization in consonant clusters is written as an apostrophe (e.g. 'ba [ˀba:] 'rice') with the following exceptions: [ˀd] is written as đ (e.g. đak [ˀda:k] 'water'); [ˀy] is written as i (e.g. iaih [ˀyayh] 'bird trap'); and [ˀw] is written as o or u (e.g. oei [ˀwei] 'be at', uơuih [ˀwəˀwih] 'to look here and there').

## [y] and [w]

Syllable-initial [y] is written y (e.g. yaih 'to untie'). After short vowels (see above) [y] is written y except after e and ŭ [u] where it is written i. Before [i], [y] is written y (as in kyĭng-kiŏng 'to shake'). In all other cases [y] is written as i (e.g. pia [pya:] 'cucumber', rai [ra:y] 'increase', saĭ [sayˀ] 'splash').

Syllable-initial [w] is written w (e.g. wei [wɛy] 'watch over'). [w] is written in all other positions as u except after [a:] and ĕ [ɛ] where it is written o (e.g. ao [a:w] 'shirt', sơngiĕo [sơŋyɛw] 'cold').

## Schwa â

In most of the earlier Bahnar literature a short schwa has been written as â before m, p, y and w; and ŏ has been written before all other consonants, except that in some cases the breve was omitted even though the vowel was short (e.g. bơn [bən] 'lst person plural inclusive pronoun', lơng [ˀlən] 'good', etc. which are written in this dictionary as bŏn, lŏng, etc.). We write â only before -y and -u; in all other contexts we write ŏ.

For words that have generally been written in the past with -âu we have used the form -ŏu since that is the way it is pronounced in the Plei Bong-Mang Yang dialect though we often include the -âu form.

Hyphen

Hyphen indicates juncture between phonological words that comprise a larger morphological word (e.g. đĭ-đăng 'all', pơđơu-pơđao-mao 'noisily discussing').

## KEY

When Bahnar Gơlar or Bahnar Kontum words are known to be the same as Plei Bong-Mang Yang then a G (Gơlar) or K (Kontum) appears in parentheses after the Plei Bong-Mang Yang entry. If Gơlar or Kontum words are known to be different from the Plei Bong-Mang Yang entry they are entered in the line below that entry. An absence of (G) or (K) means that the investigators do not know whether Gơlar or Kontum words are the same as or different from the Plei Bong-Mang Yang entry.

The code occurring after the Bahnar entry (e.g. HT-9) refers to texts in which the entry occurs in context. Some of these texts have been lost but many of them are available in a microfiche edition (Siu Mơ and John Banker, 1976).

## ALPHABET

The alphabetical ordering is as follows: a, ă, â, b, 'b, ch, d, đ, e, ĕ, ê, ĕ, g, h, i, ĭ, j, 'j, k, l, 'l, m, 'm, n, 'n, ng, 'ng, nh, 'nh, o, ŏ, ô, ŏ, ơ, ŏ, p, r, s, t, u, ŭ, ư, ŭ, w, y.

Tủ-Sach Ngôn-Ngữ
Dân-Tộc Thiểu-Số Việt-Nam
Cuốn 20
Phần 1

# BAHNAR DICTIONARY

## Plei Bong - Mang Yang Dialect

## Ngữ-Vựng Bahnar

by

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